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FOOD IS STILL SCARCE

Washington, Mar. 2.
Despite a seven per cent increase in production the world food situation is only slightly better than last year and "serious shortages still exist in Europe and the Far East," according to a statement issued by the Department of Agriculture today.

"In several countries the present low rations will have to be severely reduced unless large imports are received before the next harvest," the statement said.

The Department gave these countries where the shortage would be most severe: Russia, Italy, Germany, Austria and Rumania, as well as the Far East.

Sown crops in several European countries and North Africa were lower than last year and the severe winter in European countries had caused extensive damage to winter grains and oil seeds so that the 1947 crops may be below last year's, the statement said.—Reuter.

The Department predicted that the rice shortage will be suffered in China before the first rice harvest in southern and before wheat and other winter crops are harvested in northern China.

The report added that food conditions in Central China are expected to remain favourable. The largest deficit is in Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Hunan provinces while additional food deficits are reported in northern Kiangsu and Government-occupied areas of Hopei and Honan.

The report said the data is fragmentary for Manchuria and Communist-held areas.—United Press.

ANTI-TERRORIST DRIVE

Stern Enforcement Of Martial Law

Another Outrage At Army Camp

Jerusalem, Mar. 3.
Brig. E. F. Davies, commanding in the martial law area of Jerusalem, including the Mea Shearim quarter, today announced that "operations against Jewish terrorist gangs began in my area last night."

He gave no indication the form the operations took, but with screening posts elaborately scattered in the Jewish section of Jerusalem and throughout Tel-Aviv it is evident the British Army has a stranglehold on the two biggest Jewish communities in the Holy Land.

Unhindered by the martial law Government is retaliating against the Jewish community as a whole although the crisis was caused by a few desperate gunmen.

British troops, however, were in a stern mood and enforced martial law rigidly and severely. Warning shots were fired against curfew violators in martial law areas during the night and there is no indication the measures will end until the terrorist gangs are broken up or their activity cramped.—United Press.

Child Killed
Jerusalem, Mar. 3.
While nearly half of Palestine's 600,000 Jews were penned indoors last night under statutory martial law and the strictest curfew ever imposed in the Holy Land, two British soldiers were injured, one seriously, when their military truck was blown up by a landmine and a child died after being found with bullet wounds.

The child, a girl aged four, was found in a street in the area of Mea Shearim in Jerusalem where "warning shots" were fired today.

A court of inquiry is being held to investigate the circumstances of the child's death.

Shoot At Sight
British troops with orders to "shoot at sight" curfew breakers were tonight patrolling Tel-Aviv, the world's largest All-Jewish city, as the Army launched a "counter-terrorist" offensive and statutory martial law was clamped down on five Jewish areas of Palestine.

Sixty Jews were detained for further interrogation, following police and military searches of Beharim Jewish residential district of Jerusalem today.

A total of 300 persons were "screened" during the operation, the statement added.

Some 200,000 persons, roughly two-fifths of Palestine's Jews, have been cut off from normal facilities of civil government by today's Palestine Government announcement made within 24 hours of the opening of the new terrorist war, which yesterday cost the lives of 10 persons and injured 20 others.

Today's counter-offensive, known as "Operation Hippo" (Field Marshal Lord Montgomery's plan) began at 8 a.m. (local time), with statutory martial law on the densely populated Jewish district of Mea Shearim in Jerusalem. This was known as "Hippo Minimum."

Just over five hours later operation "Hippo Maximum" began in Tel-Aviv, with the satellite townships of Petah Tikvah, oldest Jewish colony, and Ramat Gan, an industrial town about midway between Tel-Aviv and Petah and Pith.

All placed under martial law was the village of Bnei Brak, near Ramat Gan.

Tel-Aviv's curfew is the strictest ever imposed in Palestine. All telephone and cable facilities have been suspended, isolating the coastal city from the rest of Palestine.

To impose statutory martial law, General Sir Alan Cunningham, Palestine High Commissioner, invoked the regulations made under the Palestine (Defence) Order-in-Council of 1937.

An official communiqué said that severe measures were now necessary as a result of the refusal of the Jewish community to cooperate with the British authorities against terrorism.—Reuter.

Efforts To Oust Franco
Paris, Mar. 2.
Spanish Republican Premier Rodolfo Llopias conferred yesterday with both French Premier Paul Ramadier and Foreign Minister Georges Bidault, seeking French support for his Government's efforts to oust the Franco regime in Spain.

Spanish sources said Llopias was cordially received by the two French leaders, both of whom assured him of this country's sympathy for the Spanish Republican cause.

The sources reported Llopias urged Bidault to bring the Spanish problem before the Moscow Big Four conference on March 10, but this could not be confirmed immediately.—United Press.

U.S. NEUTRAL

Cairo, Mar. 2.
President Truman assured me that he will adopt a neutral attitude towards the Palestine problem," Amir Saud, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, told pressmen when he arrived at Cairo by flying boat from Britain today.

He expressed satisfaction at Britain's decision to refer the Palestine question to the United Nations, and added that with a neutral American Arabs had great chances of success.—Reuter.

Portuguese Constable Shot

An unfortunate accident took place at the Central Police Station at about 6 p.m. on Sunday when a member of the Emergency Unit, Eduardo Eca, was shot in the chest by a comrade.

A patrol had just come off duty and were returning their arms and ammunition to store when one of the men accidentally discharged his weapon and Police Officer Eca was hit.

He was immediately rushed to hospital and enquiries last night revealed that his condition was good.

GAP ROAD SHOOTING

While S.I. Willerton, recently returned from home leave, and a party of Chinese detectives from No. 2 Police station were on routine patrol, they came upon two Chinese suspects in Gap Road, Happy Valley, near the Monument at about 9.20 last night.

The men were challenged and attempted to draw something from their girdles. One of the detectives immediately grappled with one of them and a struggle ensued. Another detective drew his revolver and shot one of the men in the leg. Each man, when searched, had guns.

Terrific Blast In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 2.
A number of persons waiting for trains at a station on Chicago's elevated city railway were among those injured by a terrific explosion in a street corner building today.

The building was so badly damaged that firemen had difficulty in reaching the interior of the wreckage.

One man, rescued cut and bleeding, said that he was on the seventh floor at the time of the explosion.

Windows within a radius of four blocks were shattered. Two persons are reported dead and an undetermined number injured. The Fire Commissioner said: "There is no way of telling how many dead may be in the wreckage.—Reuter.

The blast heavily damaged nearby buildings and shook the entire downtown area. The explosions occurred in a building housing a restaurant, tavern and barber shop but all the three were reportedly unoccupied over Sunday.

The Police said had the explosions occurred on a weekday there would have been hundreds killed. Fire officials estimated the damage at \$1,000,000 to adjoining and nearby buildings most of which housed clothing and fur wholesale firms.

Plateglass windows of firms were smashed with valuable fur and merchandise scattered in the streets. The police roped off a six-block area and posted emergency guards to prevent looting.—United Press.

C-IN-C. VISITING SHANGHAI

Shanghai, Mar. 3.
Flying his flag in the cruiser Belfast, the Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet, Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, is due in Shanghai on Wednesday for a stay of ten days.

The Belfast will be accompanied by the destroyers Cressack and Comet, and the despatch vessel Alert. The ships are coming here from Japan.—Reuter.

Army Expenditure Much Reduced

London, Mar. 3.
Britain plans a reduction of \$294,000,000 in her Army expenditure for the 1947-48 fiscal year, the Secretary for War, Mr. Frederick J. Bellenger, announced today.

Mr. Bellenger, in memorandum on the Army Estimates for the coming year, said the net expenditure would be \$388,000,000 as against \$682,000,000 for the 1946-47 year.

The memorandum said the real decrease would be even larger because provision was made for payment to the Ministry of Supply and other departments for stores and services charges for which, last year, were borne finally on the votes of those departments.

Mr. Bellenger's estimates included \$45,000,000 for terminal charges in connection with the war and \$16,000,000 for maintenance of ex-Gratias forces pending settlement of their problem.

The bulk of Mr. Bellenger's estimate, however, was for maintenance of personnel—\$192,000,000; stores—\$68,700,000; and works—\$33,500,000.

Army Of Today
Estimated pay dropped \$176,000,000 to \$114,816,000 under the Minister's estimate.

The memo circulated by the War Minister said the establishment of the Army for 1947-48 was arrived at by reconciling, as far as possible, Britain's military commitments and Government's undertakings in connection with the release of men to civilian life.

Mr. Bellenger noted that conditions still were not stable enough to require the British Army alone to maintain peace. He said the Army was required to be able to handle any situation which might arise.

T.B. PATIENTS RIOT

Rome, Mar. 3.
Police today fired shots into the air and sound clubs to control a rioting crowd of several hundred war veterans who marched from two tubercular hospitals to the Vittoriale Palace (Government headquarters) to protest inadequate medical treatment.

The first reports said ten persons were slightly injured from police club blows.—United Press.

Shanghai Uncertain Of Future

Shanghai, Mar. 3.
Uncertainty prevails in Shanghai business circles—both foreign and Chinese—as they await news of the line-up of China's reorganised Government.

Most of these regulations were authorised by Mr. T. V. Soong when he was Premier and formed the basis of attacks against him, which finally led to his resignation last Saturday and there is considerable doubt that the reshuffled Government will uphold all of them.

Meanwhile, it is rumoured here that several of Mr. Soong's close associates in the Government, including Finance Minister O. K. Yui and Vice-Premier Wong Won-hao have also tendered their resignation.

Soong For U.S.

At the same time it is reported that General Chang Chun, Szechuen Governor and leader of the Liberal Political Science Club of the Kuomintang, who is generally regarded as the most likely choice for the premiership, has indicated that he will only take over the post if enough support by other factions of the party is forthcoming.

He is here evidently referring to the powerful Conservative and Rightist elements within the Kuomintang with whom he has often seen eye to eye in the past.

The Chinese press today reported that Mr. Soong is leaving shortly for the United States, probably after the completion of the Government reorganisation in order to push negotiations on the United States loan to China.—Reuter.

Bank Governor

Shanghai, Mar. 3.
Mr. Chang Kai-shek this afternoon assumed the post of the Governor of the Central Bank of China, marking the first time in over 10 years that control of China's most important financial institution has passed out of the hands of the Kung and Soong family and intimate "brain trust."

Mr. Chang, who is a brother of Mr. Carson Chang, leader of the minority Democratic Socialist Party, is considered to have moderate liberal leanings.—United Press.

Russians Have A Little One

New York, March 3.
Radio commentator Drew Pearson said last night that "Russian scientists now have all the secrets of the atomic bomb except for certain technical machinery needed to distill uranium to a point where they have enough material to produce bombs in quantity."

In his weekly broadcast Pearson said Russia now has enough uranium to make a small atom bomb but nothing on the scale of the Hiroshima bomb.

Pearson said American intelligence agents also report that while the Russians can produce a small bomb now they still are some way off from producing a large one.

FORMOSA RIOTS SPREADING

Shanghai, Mar. 3.
Reports from private sources filtering through the news black-out on the Formosan rebellion indicated tonight that the uprisings have spread to the southern part of the island while Governor Chen Yi is seeking to reach an agreement with Formosan native leaders for an end to the bloodshed which, Chinese press sources claim, has cost 3,000 to 4,000 lives.

Approximately a score of Americans, attached to the Consulate, the U.S. Information Service and UNRRA, were reported to be all safe and in no danger with assurances received locally that the uprising had no anti-foreign aspect.

Gunfire reportedly rattled off the walls of the United States Consulate compound, in the centre of Taipei, in which many persons were reported to have taken refuge when the long smouldering Formosan resentment against a repressive Chinese administration exploded violently in the capital of the island.

The revolt was touched off when the Chinese authorities, clamping down increasingly rigid economic controls, conducted a search for smuggled cigarettes in violation of the Chinese state tobacco monopoly. This was the last straw in a long list of Formosan charges that their property and personal possessions have been seized for private gain by Chinese soldiers and officials, and complaints that the administration of the Chinese Government imposed since the Japanese defeat was a corrupt bureaucracy whose monopolistic control on industry and commerce was strangulating the once prosperous and productive island.

Soviet Comment On Anglo-Chinese Trade Pact

London, Mar. 2.
Soviet writer Yurovski said in today's Izvestia, quoted by Radio Moscow, that conclusion of an Anglo-Chinese trade agreement climaxes a noticeable sharp increase of Britain's activity in opposition to the United States' trade policy.

The present British policy in China, he said, is "undoubtedly proof of Britain's attempts to regain at least part of her pre-war position," but the struggle is taking place "under conditions of superiority of the United States."

Yurovski predicted that divergences between the rivals will "inevitably become more acute" though at present modified by Britain's interest in retaining American co-operation in other international questions.—United Press.

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A HARD JOB

Mr. Richard Law is a trustworthy observer, and his account of conditions in the British Zone of Germany cannot be waved aside in the way Mr. Hynd has attempted. Some welcome improvements in vital statistics cannot seriously challenge the fact that the zone is a slough of despond. It was never more true to say of any instance of human suffering that it is due to an act of God, but the interest of the whole world requires that such not continue longer than is inevitable. From the British point of view they constitute a burden heavy to our own economic position, since much of the cost has to be borne by the American credit but perhaps the position is even more menacing in other respects. The whole purpose of the occupation of Germany is to sterilise the seeds of another war, and Mr. Hynd's comments during the foreign affairs debate last week suggest that we are not alone in fearing that the occupation may be fertilising more seeds than it sterilises. The fault is very far from being due to the administration system, and nothing could be more fantastic than the Russian charges that the British occupation authorities have been wholly incompetent or possessed of a nefarious political bent. The chief responsibility lies upon the German which started the war, however ready Germans may be to forget it. Moreover, when everything taken into account the fact that the British Zone is economically the most difficult to run has been taken into account, none of the occupying Powers emerges with more credit. Nevertheless, there never has been little excuse for entrusting the job to an absentee Minister in London. Mr. Hynd, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who is primarily responsible recently gave some instances of economic improvements. But the question still remains whether they could not have been secured earlier if certain steps, such as fusion with the American Zone, had been taken more quickly. Ordinary prudence could have foretold very soon after the end of the war, that zealous Russian co-operation would be a doubtful quantity and that it might be fatal to wait for it. In point of fact, the economic unity of Germany is ultimately essential, but at the moment it is an academic question, as also is the form of the country's political future, compared with the question of how to get some semblance of civilised life and economic hope going wherever we can. That is why it is so futile for the Government to waste time on planning how to export Socialism to the British Zone. They would do better to concentrate upon getting industries restarted than to prattle about transferring them to public ownership. The task of setting Germany upon feet which have lost the itch to kick the rest of the world would have been difficult enough even if the Government had put first things first. It will be impossible if they do not.

Whatever is or is not done in the British Zone or at the Moscow Conference next week, conditions will be pretty desperate in Germany for a long time. Indeed, even the project of making the Anglo-American Zone self-supporting by the end of 1949 seems an extremely optimistic speculation. The wisest course therefore (which has perhaps been too slowly followed) would be to devolve the greatest possible administrative responsibility upon Germans. Within limits, the job of getting them out of the mess is not our task, any more than the fact that they are in it is our fault. We may hope that the Moscow Conference will not delay long in agreeing upon Germany's political future or in fulfilling at long last the Potsdam principle of her economic unity. When there is again a Germany, no danger from her must in the last resort be guarded against by other provisions, but by the vigilance of the United Nations.

THE HUMAN SIDE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY

By the Domestic Chaplain to the King
The Rev. W. H. ELLIOTT

There, in Africa, black faces as he stood—quiet—and saluted while the clock struck the hour. Then without a word to anybody the King and Queen got back into their car and drove slowly home again. That was so like them.

It is a touching thing to be with the King in the Abbey on Maundy Thursday when he comes down the long aisle to give alms to old people who need his gift. They are very old most of them, very infirm, very tired and worn. No court clothes here, for they have nothing but what they stand up in.

Then the King comes, and to each he hands his gift, with a smile for each and a word for each, and a deference—for I can only call it that—as though old age and infirmity, coupled with patient endurance, calls for its own homage even from a King.

Well, that is how the King thinks of his people. He is never in his mind a mass of subjects to be dragooned in this way or in that. We are individuals, so far as opportunity gives him a chance to make us individuals.

While I speak of this, I cannot but say something of a gift of his that quite baffles me. I mean his uncanny way of remembering names and faces. I call it "uncanny" because honestly I know of nobody else who has the gift in anything like that measure. His father had it before him. The Queen has it, too.

It goes without saying that he is very shrewd and observant. No eye is quicker than his: spot a button with an inscription upon it which I, for one, I really, had never been curious enough to read.

But when it comes to a quite unexpected encounter with that same file of boys, whom he had not seen at close quarters for nearly a year, and after some plances a quick remark that three or four were new boys, then really I am baffled.

A second glance brings another inquiry. Where is this, that, or the other boy, whom he remembered when he saw them last? With that, he has a thousandth part of that gift, and I mean just that.

Can anything make a man or woman or child feel more loved than the King does? And that is what is going to mean so much to South Africa in these coming months.

What a statesmanship can, only strain to do with uncertain effort, that sort of personal touch will do at once. Mark my words.

Of the Princesses I cannot speak with equal knowledge. I do know that they share the King's quite extraordinary personal charm and that of the Queen, too.

They have had a natural and a very happy childhood. They are not ashamed to enjoy—as they are in their annual pantomime—what we call "the show". They are not spoiled in the very least. South Africa will find in them something of the freshness and beauty of our English spring. Here in the snow I can find no more cheering promise than that.

I clearly remember one sunny morning in August, 1940. It had been a very nasty night, with bombs falling and heavy guns firing very close, and there were all were in an hotel lounge for a time-bomb had turned me out of house and home some days before—prospered in the easy informality of people, some still in dressing-gowns and slippers, whom I knew had brought together in more ways than one.

Suddenly there were a few cheers outside on the pavement. We all went to see what was happening. And what do you think was happening quite early on that lovely day that followed our night of hell?

A police car rushed swiftly past, and then another—with the King and Queen. There had been a bomb in Chelsea—a grim business—and the King and Queen had left everything to come themselves at once, and among the smoking ruins with their people.

That is my own memory, for it impressed me deeply, but there are many thousands who share it. Not only in this deeply-scarred London but in many another place where homes had been shattered, lives lost, and hearts sorely bruised or broken.

It was not long before the King and Queen were there, whatever the distance was. And, not far behind them was that "grim and gay" old Bulldog, with his V sign and his elgar. So we held out, but we did not forget.

Somewhat my mind links up with that one foggy morning in November—half-way through the war—when the King and Queen, in time of the King's death to the Cenotaph year by year.

Then the King decided suddenly that he would do it himself. Of ceremony there could be none—no bands, no troops, no police, no crowds, but, nevertheless, he had been and knowing what he knew, the wreath must be placed there by his own hands.

At eleven o'clock the fog was very thick. "Frankie" had almost stopped. "Whitehall" there were a few folk about, but they drew up outside the Home Office, and looked at the King's car, and then they drove off.

Air Safety Measures

Washington, Feb. 23.

The answer to the blind flying and air port congestion riddles, says Dudley H. Toller-Bond, British engineer, is to put airplanes on invisible tracks that lead them as surely to their destinations as rails do trains.

Toller-Bond is chief engineer of Decca Navigator system, American subsidiary of Decca Navigator Co., London. He has a radio device calculated to increase profits and prevent delay by improving schedule reliability and frequency.

By CHARLES CORDRY

money. He is awaiting only a go-ahead from the Federal Communications Commission to prove his point.

His device was one of Britain's top-drawer wartime secrets. It was Britain's because American engineers told William J. O'Brien, Chicago, its inventor, that it would not work. O'Brien convinced the Admiralty otherwise.

Here is what happens:

Air tracks—any number of them, in contrast with present limitations—are laid out in straight lines on a map. In instrument weather, a pilot is assigned a track, say between Washington and New York. In his cockpit is a dial and as long as he keeps the needle pointing to zero he will fly around all terrestrial obstacles, such as the Empire State Building, and come in directly over the airport. If the air port is under a low ceiling and landings are delayed, the pilot flips a switch, keeps the needle on zero and is shunted to an orbit where he can await landing directions.

Here is how it works:

Three radio transmitters are installed on the ground to cover an area about the size of that between Washington and Boston. Their signals are picked up by a 30-pound radio receiver in the plane. Before take-off, the pilot inserts a roll of film in a track control unit. On the film are special marks applicable only to the track allocated to the plane.

As the film turns in relation to the speed of the plane, the marks work in conjunction with the electrical output of the radio set to control the needle on the dial. Keep the needle on zero and you will always follow a straight line. Deviations of only 200 yards will show on the dial.

Toller-Bond says for \$1,000,000 he could lay out a track 300 miles wide between New York and Los Angeles. The advantage is that in bad weather a large number of planes could fly side by side with safe spacing. Today they fly one over the other at 1,000-foot intervals, a severely limited procedure because of the likelihood of being at various altitudes.

The device not only leads planes to destinations, but guides them over the runway or out into an orbit when they wait to land. The film for any given track bears marks for that purpose. If the control tower operator, for instance, instructs the pilot to take "orbit 10," he switches his orbit selector to No. 10, keeps the dial needle on zero, and automatically goes into that orbit.

Toller-Bond once flew 200 miles blind, and snapped a picture over the dead centre of the Antwerp Cathedral.

"It is a world beater for blind flying," he said. "If the FCC will grant the necessary frequencies for his transmitters, he hopes to convince the airlines that he is right."

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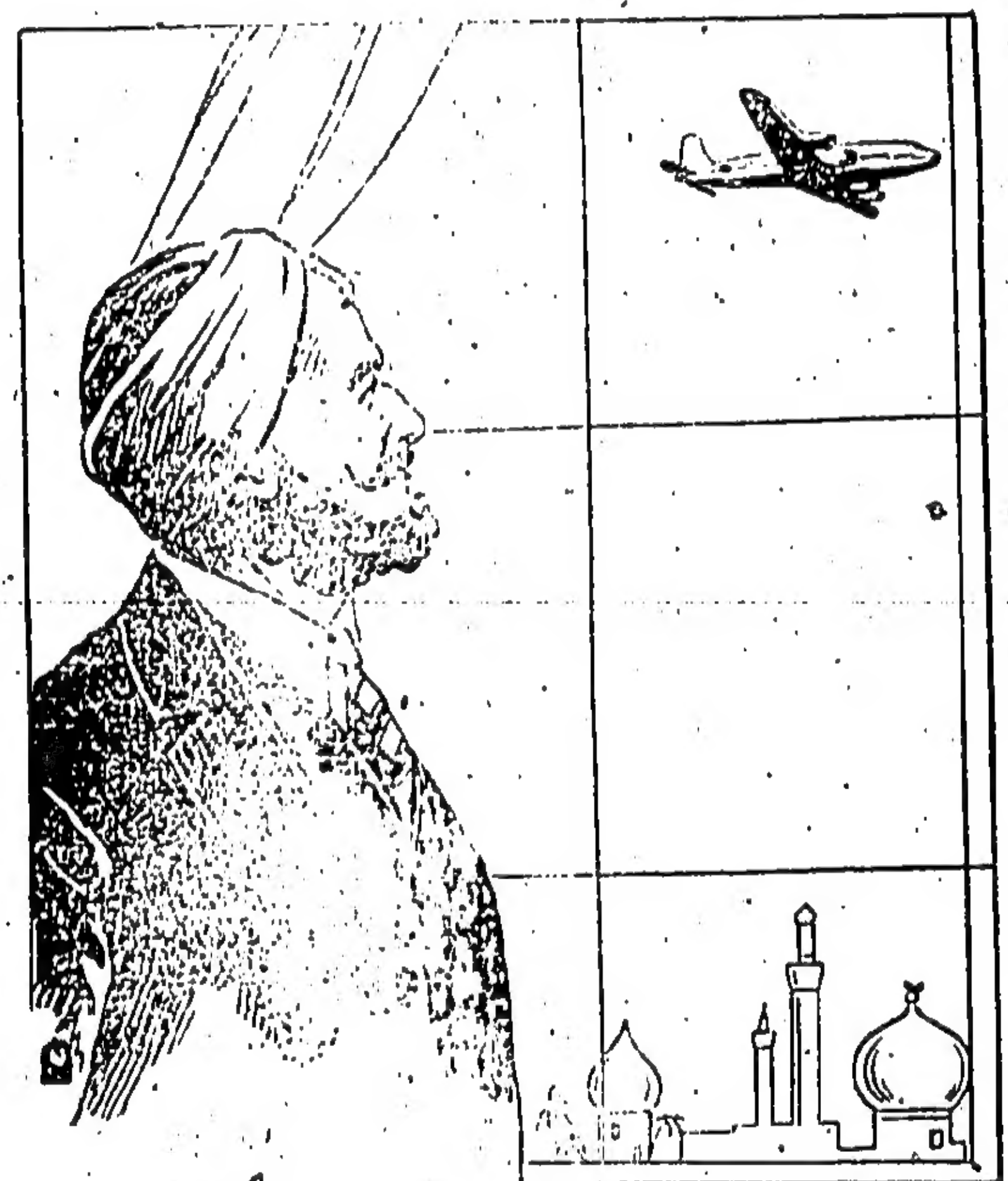
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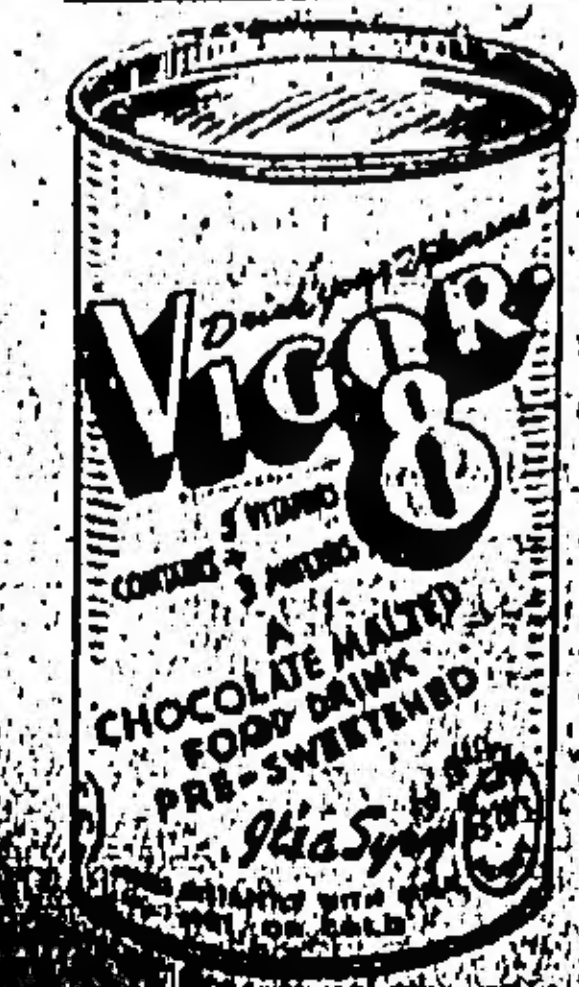
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CARNIVAL By Dick Turner



"No, I don't want to go to the movie, Elbert! I think that once in a while we should stay home and entertain ourselves!"

The Bald Facts About Japan's Future

By Thor Smith, who has just returned to America after a tour of the Orient with nine American newspaper executives, guests of the Secretary for War.

The Orient is in a political and economic turmoil.

This condition, while not unusual for the Far East, has assumed tremendous significance because of America's vital stake from now on in the Pacific.

The bald fact is that Japan is a political battleground and a security frontier for the United States against our only possible aggressor—Russia.

No diplomatic or military offensive. Be it kind or unkind, nobody will take much notice or remember for more than an hour. A casual word from the King or Queen is remembered for a lifetime, passed from ear to ear, told to children and grandchildren.

It means hard work—very hard work. I used to laugh with friends of mine and to say that my light was the last to go out in Westminster—an idle boast, of course, but an answer to some who saw my window lighted at one o'clock in the morning. It often is, but I take no credit for it, since my doctors make me rest a lot in the middle of the day.

I boast no more, for some time ago I found that least one light often goes out in Westminster later than that—and that is the light in the King's study.

In the name, then, of all who have read this article, I wish them a loyal and heartfelt bon voyage, and may God bless who I believe will prove to be an historic visit to a great country.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

GOING FOR EVERYTHING

"Shoot the works!" and "Go after everything!" are necessary mottoes for the play of many a hopeless-looking contract. Striving for maximum good fortune can be your only chance in some cases. It may not save you, but if it doesn't, at least you have the satisfaction of knowing you have given yourself the only possible hope of success. And when the extreme measures do work, you have something to live by, in your memory and enjoy every time you bring it forth for inspection—or to use as a means of edifying listeners.

S. K 7 6 2
H. 0 5 7 8 4
D. 0 7 10
C. 10

S. Q 9 8 3
H. A K 10 4
D. 3
C. K 12

S. A 10 4
H. 2 5 6 7 8 9
D. A J 3 6 5 4 2
C. 9 3

(Dealer: North, East-West vulnerable.)

North South
Pass Pass
3 D 2 D
4 C 4 D
5 D Pass

And there was J. Harlin O'Connell, star of the Union Club of New York's Inter-Club League, put by his admiring partner into a state of complete contact with the King's study.

Tomorrow's Problem

S. J 10 8 4
H. A 7 5
D. A 5 6
C. A 3 2

S. A 9 2
H. K J 10 8
D. 4
C. K 9 8

(Dealer: South, Neither side vulnerable.)

Why should North strain to win bidding No. 10 on the last hand?

TRUMAN OFF IN "SACRED COW"

Washington, Mar. 3.

President Truman left for Mexico City for a four-day visit to Mexico.

The President will stop at Grand View, Missouri, to visit his mother, who is suffering from a fractured hip, and will stay in the White House on Monday.

The U.S. Secretary of State, George Marshall, will not have time to visit the Sacred Cow on his trip to Mexico.

There is a plan to visit the Sacred Cow on his trip to Mexico.

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TRUMAN'S NOTE ON GREECE
Britain Asked To Retain Her Forces There**No Troops To Be Sent From USA**

Washington, Mar. 2.

President Truman has urged Britain to retain her troops in Greece to avert a civil war there, with the assurance that the American administration is considering assuming much of the financial burden and supplying military assistance other than the despatch of American troops.

This according to the Sunday Times correspondent, is the effect of a note which the Under-Secretary of State has handed to the British Ambassador. The note was in reply to the one handed by the British Ambassador, Lord Iverchapel, to General Marshall, Secretary of State, in which it was explained that Britain could not continue to accept financial responsibility for Greece after March 31.

President Truman is expected in a "major address" on Thursday to lay the facts before the nation and will ask for a credit or loan of \$2,500,000 for Greece, spread over the next three years. It will be supported by General Marshall. What answer the American public will make nobody can say. It is certainly, however, that the American administration feels that the desperate economic plight of Britain and its suggested withdrawal from Greece makes the major problem facing the Moscow conference not so much the German issue but the precarious situation of the border democracies, Greece, Turkey and Italy, not to forget France and even Britain herself.

Big Surprise

American military chiefs see that it is of first importance to American security that Greece should be sustained. This is also true of President Truman and General Marshall. The question is whether Congress and the

public will take this historic decision for which there is no American precedent and present it to them without previous preparation.

The news that Britain proposed to reduce her underwriting commitments in Greece came to the Washington with stunning suddenness and General Marshall himself was nonplussed. There is prospect that subsequent discussion will be brutally frank and the process of American education in world affairs will be faster in the next month than during the last century.

Crucial Decision

President Truman and General Marshall under the most solemn circumstances on Thursday laid before select Congressional leaders the necessity of making a crucial decision. That decision is whether the country is prepared to make available money and military strength to block further extension of Soviet influence throughout Europe.

The meeting was described as "ultra secret" which meant that most of the pertinent facts were published here within 24 hours. Perhaps this was intended. Certainly, the matter was presented without vestige of partisanship but as a decision which the entire nation must face.—Reuter.

U.S. Terms

London, Mar. 2.

The receipt of an "aide memoire" from the United States Government, outlining the terms on which it would be prepared to provide economic assistance for the Greek Government, was confirmed by a Foreign Office spokesman tonight. The communication is now being considered.

The United States is reliably understood to have urged that British troops should continue to stay in Greece if economic assistance is to be supplied from Washington.—Reuter.

Hitler Treasure Found

Berlin, Mar. 2.

Hitler's platinum treasure, worth several thousand pounds, has been discovered by Allied officials in the steel chambers of a German bank.

The platinum, which was a gift of a wealthy South African whose name is not disclosed, is the only property of Hitler of any considerable value so far discovered.

American investigation officials have discovered in the vaults of the Thyssen Bank, Reich Treasury orders to the value of half a million marks, belonging to Goering.—Reuter.

No Home Yet For The Moscow Talks

Moscow, Mar. 2.

Eight days before the opening of the Foreign Ministers conference in Moscow the embassies of the participating powers had not been informed today where it is to take place.

There is considerable evidence pointing to the use of the former Flyers' Club, two and a half miles from the heart of the city, which, in pre-revolutionary times, was a restaurant for Tsarist aristocracy.

Crews of carpenters and painters have been busy there clearing and refurbishing, since Feb. 14, if the club proves to be the place chosen it will add a touch of historic colour.

In the days of the Romanoffs it was known as the "Yar" Restaurant and was mentioned frequently in Russian classics describing the life of the aristocracy. It stands near Dynamo Stadium at the start of the Leninrad highway. The four-storey building, some 80 or 100 years old, still has a restaurant, which, it is believed, would be an important factor in its choice.

since it would enable the negotiators to have meals on the spot. Only a thin trickle of advance clerical staff such as typists has reached Moscow. Correspondents already here are being inundated with cables from colleagues who have reached Stockholm, Berlin and Paris, asking for assistance in speeding up visas. There is no indication when the bars will be let down but the general opinion is that it will not be until zero-hour.

The Moscow hotels are undergoing house-cleaning of cyclonic proportions with squads of painters, whitewashers, upholsterers and scrubbing men setting the stage to welcome the overflow of foreign delegations.—Reuter.

THE POPE'S BIRTHDAY

Vatican City, Mar. 2.

Special Masses were celebrated in churches throughout Rome today—the Pope's 71st birthday.

Mass in the Vatican was attended by all diplomatic representatives to the Holy See. The Vatican flag, gold and white, was flown from all Vatican buildings.—Reuter.

Tapping Rich Source Of Labour--D.P.s.

Herford, Mar. 2.

Government delegations from all parts of Europe and the United States are arriving in Britain's zone of Germany to tap the skilled labour lying idle in displaced persons camps.

Nearly two years after the end of the European war, Britain, France and a host of small nations have discovered that up to 1,500,000 skilled men and women, many of them imported into the Reich to act as slave labour for Hitler's war machine, are available for work.

Almost simultaneously the nations have decided that to import these displaced persons under favourable conditions is one way of repairing their war-damaged economies. French officials touring the British, French and American zones are guaranteeing that any worker who proved satisfactory after one year in France will not be sent back and will eventually be given the opportunity of applying for French citizenship.

Britain, in spite of her labour shortage in the mines, appears to have been slightly later in the field than France, but a special Examinatory delegation has now arrived at Herford, new headquarters for a conference on displaced persons. The selection of D.P.s for Britain was understood to be carried out by Ministry of Labour

SEARCH ABANDONED

Singapore, Mar. 2.

The search for the Royal Air Force "Dakota" missing since Wednesday on a flight from Singapore to Saigon with two high-ranking British officers was abandoned at 11.30 a.m. today.

The British cruiser *Manzan* and aircraft have been searching a wide area where the *Dakota* may have come down. Yesterday the search parties landed at Tioman Island, off the east coast of Malaya, to ask the islanders to join in the search.

The plane was carrying two civilians and ten Service passengers, including Brigadier J. H. Alma, chief of British Intelligence in Singapore.—Reuter.

Better Out Of Asia

Washington, Mar. 3.

Senator Capper, Republican, Kansas, said he feels assured that the Western Europeans are "definitely out of Asia—politically and probably economically."

"When Britain grants independence to India the next step is inevitable," Capper said in a radio address.

"That inevitable next step is that France and Holland also are going to give up their holdings in the Orient. In other words, World War II ended the reign of the White European man in the Orient."

Capper said the American withdrawal of "a few diplomats and a comparatively few armed forces from China was in my judgment, a good move, all things considered. If the Asians prove themselves capable of running their own affairs we are in a position to deal with them on equal terms politically and economically."

"If, as many persons believe, Soviet Russia attempts to move into the supposed vacuum created by our voluntary withdrawal and Europe's compulsory withdrawal, then our moves in the Orient are less likely to be viewed with suspicion than if we were regarded as abetting the continuance of Western European domination of the Orient."—Associated Press.

Two Bearded Women Are Now Men

Rome, Mar. 2.

Dispatches from Turin reported today that two sisters, Lina and Luigia Chabert, 30 and 38 years old respectively, had been transformed from women into men by surgical operations.

The responsible newspaper, *Il Messaggero*, said that although both had been legally registered at birth as females, their bodily characteristics became "unmistakably masculine, despite long and abundant tresses."

Il Messaggero said the surgical operation, which occurred some time ago, required only one hour. It also said the two cratwile sisters, now brothers, had both become engaged to two girls, "who had not escaped their affectionate attention" even during their supposed membership in the opposite sex.

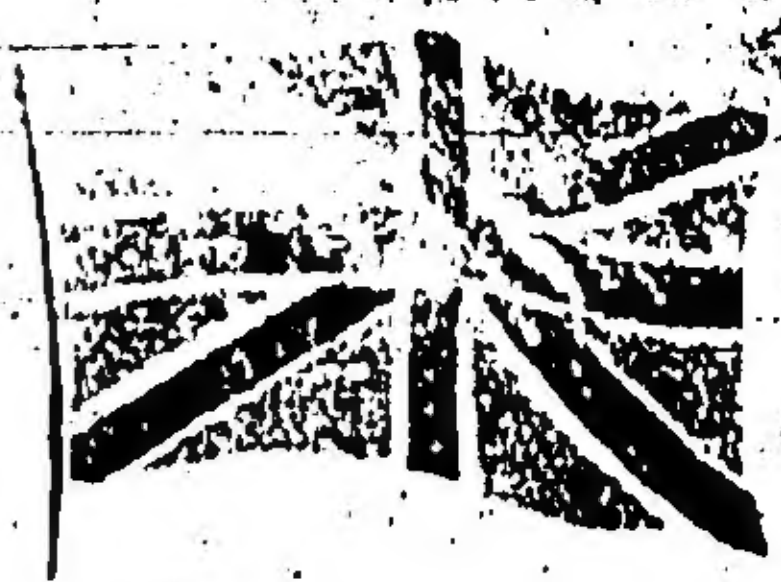
Il Tempo said, "Actually, the father of the Chabert girls to consent to the operation, which made him the father of two strong sons."—United Press. Two sisters had little in common with the fair sex. Besides overdeveloped hands and large, square shoulders, the two girls had very long tresses, but shaved their beards regularly. In addition, mutual sympathy and attention between the sisters and the most beautiful girls of the neighbourhood caused much talk. It was this talk which motivated the

ROUND-UP IN SOOCHOW

Soochow, March 2.

More than 600 persons were rounded up over the weekend in citywide midnight searches conducted by the Police and the military ostensibly to check the census but believed to have been aimed at Communist suspects who might have infiltrated into this scenic city, which is famous for pretty girls. This is 30 miles west of Shanghai.

The authorities claimed that many "displaced persons" have been freed after a cautious United Press.



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IN TECHNICOLOR"YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT LOVE"
A COLUMBIA PRODUCTION**NON-INTERVENTION CANNOT
MEAN INDIFFERENCE**Mexico City, Mar. 3.
President Harry Truman today pledged the United States will "be faithful to the letter and to the spirit" of non-intervention in other nations' affairs, but declared that "cannot mean indifference."

"Events in one country may have a profound effect in other countries," he said. "The community of nations feels concern at the violation of accepted principles of national behaviour by any one of its members." President Truman, making a goodwill visit to Mexico, devoted part of his speech to defining for the first time his conception of the "doctrine of non-intervention."

MAJESTIC
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in
"INTERNATIONAL LADY"

It is a binding commitment under the good neighbour policy. It is part of a basic international law recognised by all American republics. My own country will be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of that law.

The President went on to say that an "effort to achieve collective world security has been concurrent with growing acceptance of the doctrine of non-intervention."

"It is inspiring to note the progress we have made toward establishing a community of nations with authority to enforce law on delinquencies," he continued.

"The Charter of the UNO specifically invests the world community of nations with a measure of such authority," Associated Press.

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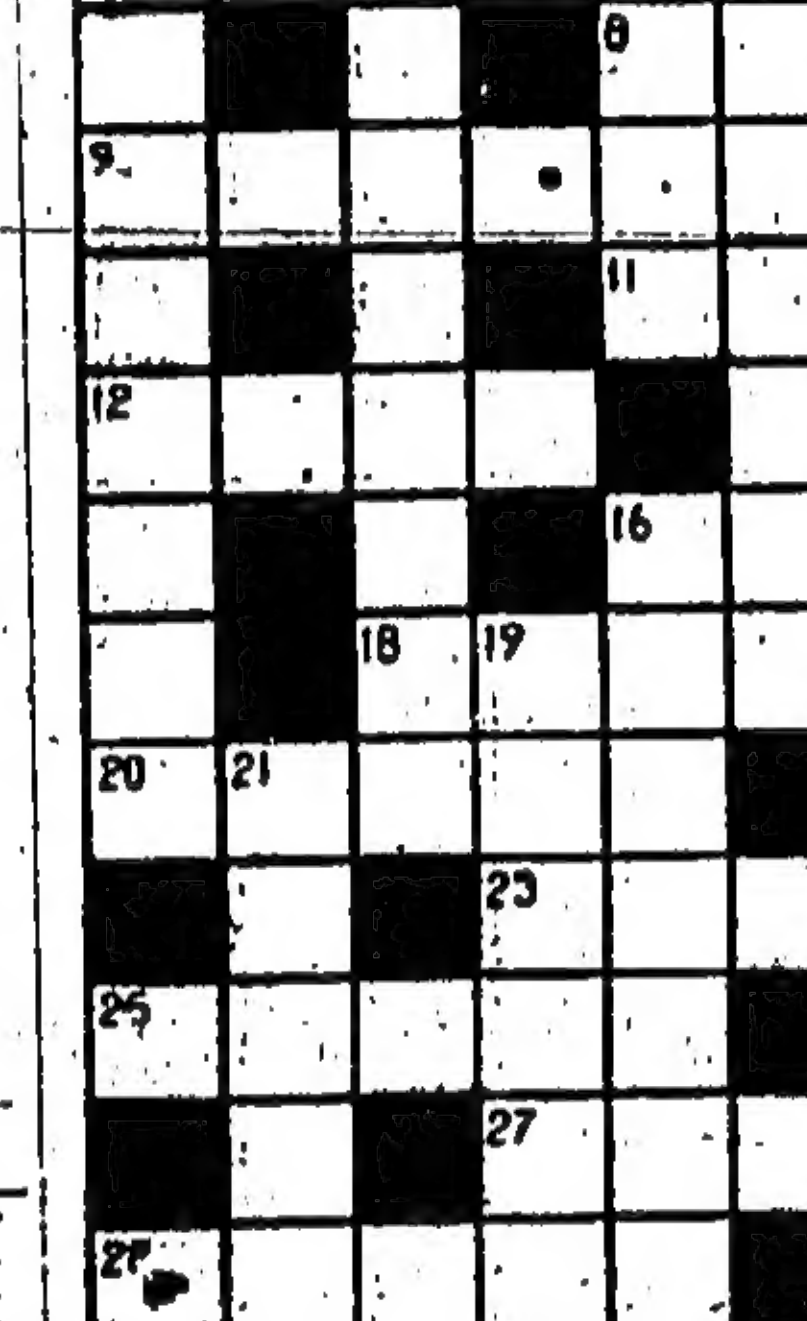
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**RESERVES
CALLED UP**London, Mar. 2.
A Daily Telegraph dispatch from Athens said today that 10,000 reservists between the ages of 22 and 26 had been called up in what was believed to be Greece's first step toward increasing the size of her army.
The dispatch quoted an authoritative source saying that Greece would increase her army from its present 100,000 men to 200,000 or 300,000 and then she would not need any foreign force to cope with internal disturbances or external threats.
—United Press.**SILK IS
COMING BACK**New York, Mar. 3.
"Silk is coming back," the American National Retail Dry Goods Association says in its report to its members.
"In spite of all new synthetic fibres which have found such a useful place in the merchandise world there is a rumour that silk never can belong to any other fibre," the Association says.
The report forms part of the Association's effort to encourage American shopkeepers to buy more silk articles for customers.
—Associated Press.**A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE****Clues Down**1. Acciden... 16. Gloomy.
2. Robust. 17. Lucky charm.
3. Unit of 20. Ventures.
4. Metallic fine-ness. 22. Multitude.
5. Competitor. 23. Scent.
6. Regal. 25. Spry.
7. Material. 26. Sorene.
8. Contest. 27. Angry.
9. Stop. 28. Attempts.
10. Scold.**Clues Across**1. In a dying state. 7. Success.
2. Unusual. 14. Aviator.
3. High cards. 15. Female press chief.
4. Protection from the sun. 16. Assembles.
5. Bean. 17. Indian corn.
6. Makes repairs. 21. Boring tool.
7. Vacillate.
8. Break. 25. Valour. 26. Even. 27. Stern. 28. Skimpy.
DOWN:—1. Sash. 2. Mire. 3. Lamb. 4. Expert. 5. Season. 6. Axiom. 7. Decoy. 8. Innuendo. 9. Scribble. 10. Believe. 11. Slacken. 12. Vital. 13. Solves. 14. Lark. 15. Roam. 16. Fray.**Yesterday's Crossword**

ACROSS:—1. Sample; 5. Sward; 8. Axtle; 9. Shrimp; 11. Scrap; 12. Embers; 14. Bust; 16. Ovine; 18. Creel; 19. Snip; 20. Cellar; 24.

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SING WING CO.
807 Wing Lok Street, Kowloon.**BLACK MARKET
CRACK-DOWN**Rome, Mar. 2.
The police arrested eight persons, including Mussolini's Minister of Communications, today in a blackmarket crack-down on Czech sugar imports which the group allegedly said was the Cuban Government's gift to the Italian Communist Party.
The police said the former Minister, Nino Host-Venturi, and seven others profited for weeks on 4,800 tons of sugar which they said the Cuban Government had exported to aid industry workers in Italy.
—United Press.**U.S. COTTON**New York, Mar. 3.
American cotton production is expected to increase when farm labour becomes available.
A survey by the Department of Agriculture discloses that 68 per cent of cotton farmers who refused acreage did so because of labour shortage and intend to increase crops when labour can again be found.
Meanwhile, the Department of Agriculture reports that hedging of foreign cotton through sales in the American futures markets has had little effect on American cotton prices.
The volume of transactions is said to be small.
—Associated Press.**AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES.**REFRIGERATION—SPECIAL CARGO OIL TANKS—
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